

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KIGALI 01343 150033Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 IO-13 /073 W

-----093221 150035Z /21

P 110940Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6513

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 1343

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, CG, OA, OAU, RW

SUBJECT: ZAIRE/ANGOLA: RWANDAN PARTICIPATION ON OAU  
VERIFICATION COMMISSION

REF: STATE 199562

1. I SPOKE "UNOFFICIALLY" THIS MORNING WITH DEFMIN CHEF DE CABINET COMMANDANT RUSATIRA AND INQUIRED AS TO GOR INTENTIONS RE PARTICIPATION ON VERIFICATION COMMISSION. RUSATIRA SAID HE WAS NOT WELL INFORMED ON SUBJECT (WHICH HAS NOT BEEN PUBLICIZED OR EVEN MUCH DISCUSSED HERE). I BAITED HIM BY SUGGESTING THAT, ACCORDING TO OUR INFO, RWANDA HAD DECLINED INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AND THAT ANGOLA AND ZAIRE WERE CASTING ABOUT FOR ALTERNATIVE MEMBER. RUSATIRA, RISING TO BAIT, SAID HE ASSUMED RWANDAN POSITION WAS BASED ON RELUCTANCE TO INVOLVE ITSELF IN ZAIRE/ANGOLA BILATERAL PROBLEMS. HE SUGGESTED THERE WERE PROBABLY MANY OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH COULD SERVE IN THIS CAPACITY AS WELL AS RWANDA.

2. IT WAS CLEAR MY INQUIRY HAD PIQUED RUSATIRA'S CURIOSITY, HOWEVER, AND HE TELEPHONED ME LATER TO SAY HE HAD INQUIRED FURTHER INTO THE MATTER. HE SAID HE WAS ADVISED BY "A MOST RELIABLE SOURCE" (I ASSUME HE MEANT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KIGALI 01343 150033Z

THE PRESIDENT) THAT GOR DID INDEED INTEND TO PARTICIPATE AS A COMMISSION MEMBER. RUSATIRA WAS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN TO ME THE REPORT THAT IT HAD PREVIOUSLY DECLINED INVITATION, SAYING HE ASSUMED THAT "COLONEL" (FONMIN NSEKALJE) HAD PERHAPS MISUNDERSTOOD INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO HIM AT OAU MEETING IN KHARTOUM.

3. COMMENT: I PREFERRED NOT TO GOE TO FONMIN DIRECTLY WITH THIS INQUIRY, SINCE I WAS SURE OUR INTEREST WOULD BE MISINTERPRETED AS URGING RWANDAN PARTICIPATION AND THAT RWANDANS WOULD THUS BE LED TO EXPECT SOMETHING IN EXCHANGE FROM US FOR AGREEING TO DO SO. I STRESSED TO RUSATIRA THAT OUR INTEREST WAS MERELY INFORMAL AND FRIENDLY, IN CONTEXT OF OUR HOPE TO SEE AFRICANS RESOLVE AFRICAN PROBLEMS THEMSELVES.

4. 4. WHETHER RUSATIRA'S SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION TO ME IS ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE, I CANNOT SAY. EVIDENTLY THERE IS A BREAKDOWN IN COMMUNICATION SOMEWHERE BETWEEN KINSHASA AND KIGALI ON THIS SUBJECT. CRIGLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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